

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (previously presented): A method of conducting homologous recombination, which is characterized in that it comprises the following steps (a) and (b):

(a) a step of preparing filamentous fungi cells wherein a decrease or loss of the functions of a gene necessary for non-homologous recombination is induced; and

(b) a step of introducing foreign DNA into said cells, so as to conduct homologous recombination.

Claim 2 (original): The method according to claim 1, which is characterized in that said decrease or loss of the functions of a gene necessary for non-homologous recombination is achieved by introducing a mutation or deletion into the gene necessary for non-homologous recombination that exists in the cells.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, which is characterized in that said decrease or loss of the functions of a gene necessary for non-homologous recombination is achieved by disrupting as a whole the gene ~~as a whole~~ necessary for non-homologous recombination that exists in the cells.

Claim 4 (currently amended): The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 3~~ claim 1, which is characterized in that said step of introducing foreign DNA is achieved by any one of [[the]]an electroshock method, [[the]]a spheroplast method, and [[the]]a Ti plasmid method.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4~~
~~claim 1~~, which is characterized in that said gene necessary for non-homologous recombination is a gene selected from the group consisting of ~~at least~~ KU70, KU80, LigIV, DNA-PKcs, and XRCC4.

Claims 6-8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): The method according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 5~~
~~claim 1~~, wherein said filamentous fungi belong to any one of genus Neurospora, genus Aspergillus, genus Penicillium, genus Fusarium, genus Trichoderma, and genus Mucor.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The method according to claim 9, wherein said filamentous fungi belonging to genus Neurospora is one type selected from the group consisting of ~~at least~~ *Neurospora crassa*, *Neurospora sitophila*, *Neurospora tetrasperma*, *Neurospora intermedia*, and *Neurospora discreta*.

Claims 11-12 (canceled)

Claim 13 (currently amended): The method according to claim 9, wherein said filamentous fungi belonging to genus Aspergillus is one type selected from the group consisting of ~~at least~~ *Aspergillus oryzae*, *Aspergillus sojae*, *Aspergillus niger*, *Aspergillus awamori*, *Aspergillus kawachi*, *Aspergillus parasiticus*, *Aspergillus flavus*, *Aspergillus nomius*, *Aspergillus fumigatus*, and *Aspergillus nidulans*.

Claim 14 (previously presented): Cells prepared in said step (a) of the method according to claim 1.

Claim 15 (currently amended): Cells obtained by the method ~~according to any one of claims 1 to 13 of claim 1.~~

Claim 16 (new): Cells obtained by the method of claim 5.

Claim 17 (new): Cells obtained by the method of claim 10.

Claim 18 (new): Cells obtained by the method of claim 13.